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January 24, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/616,750
Filed: July 10, 2003
For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ASSISTING REMOVAL OF SAND
MOLDINGS FROM CASTINGS**
Inventor: Lewis, et al.
Our Reference Number: 2041219-0005

Sir or Madam:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S.
Patent and Trademark Office:

1. Transmittal letter;
2. Transmittal Form;
3. Fee Transmittal Form;
4. Our check number 245831 in the amount of \$180.00;
5. Information Disclosure Statement;
6. PTO Form SB/08;
7. A copy of the foreign document cited in IDS;
8. A copy of the Communication pursuant to Article 96(2) EPC; and
9. An acknowledgment postcard.

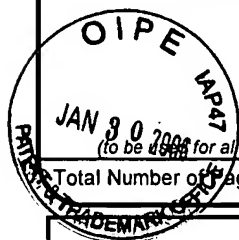
Very truly yours,


Sam S. Han

SSH/clr
enclosures

Active\3319775.1

TRANSMITTAL FORM



Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number 10/616,750

Filing Date July 10, 2003

First Named Inventor Lewis, et al.

Art Unit 1725

Examiner Name Ing-Hour Lin

Attorney Docket Number 2041219-0005

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

☒ Fee Transmittal Form☒ Fee Attached☐ Amendment / Reply☐ After Final☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)☐ Extension of Time Request☐ Express Abandonment Request☒ Information Disclosure Statement☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)☐ Reply to Missing Parts/
Incomplete Application☐ Reply to Missing Parts
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53☐ Drawing(s)☐ Licensing-related Papers☐ Petition☐ Petition to Convert to a
Provisional Application☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation
Change of Correspondence Address☐ Terminal Disclaimer☐ Request for Refund☐ CD, Number of CD(s) _____☐ Landscape Table on CD☐ After Allowance Communication to TC☐ Appeal Communication to Board
of Appeals and Interferences☐ Appeal Communication to TC
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)☐ Proprietary Information☐ Status Letter☒ Other Enclosure(s)
(please identify below):Acknowledgment Postcard; Copy of
Foreign Document Cited in IDS; Copy of
Communication pursuant to Article 96(2)
EPC

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm

McGuireWoods LLP, 1170 Peachtree Street, N.E., Suite 2100, Atlanta, Georgia 30309

Signature

Printed Name

Sam S. Han

Date

January 24, 2006

Reg.
No.

51,771

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Signature

Typed or printed name

Crystal L. Regan

Date

January 24, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2006		Complete if Known	
Effective on 12/08/2004. Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).		Application Number	10/616,750
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27		Filing Date	July 10, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Lewis, et al.
		Examiner Name	Ing-Hour Lin
		Art Unit	1725
		Attorney Docket No.	2041219-0005
TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)		180.00	

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☒ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☐ None ☐ Other (please identify) : _____
☐ Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 23-1951 Deposit Account Name: McGuireWoods LLP

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee
☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) ☒ Credit any overpayments
Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES

Application Type	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		Fees Paid (\$)
	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee(\$)	Fee(\$)	Small Entity Fee(\$)	Fee(\$)	Small Entity Fee(\$)	
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100	_____
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65	_____
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80	_____
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300	_____
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0	_____

2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

Fee Description		Small Entity	
Fee Description	Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)
Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)	50	25	
Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)	200	100	
Multiple dependent claims	360	180	
Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee(\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
_____ -20 or HP= _____	x _____	= _____	
HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.			
Indep. Claims	Extra Claims	Fee(\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
_____ - 3 or HP= _____	x _____	= _____	
HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3.			

3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
_____ - 100 = _____	/ 50 = _____	(round up to a whole number) x _____	= _____	

4. OTHER FEE(S)

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): IDS Filing Fee

Fees Paid (\$)
180.00

SUBMITTED BY

Signature		Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	51,771	Telephone	(404) 443-5728
Name (Print/Type)	Sam S. Han	Date	January 24, 2006		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing this form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

James L. Lewis, Jr., et al.

Docket No.: 2041219-0005

Serial No.: 10/616,750

Group Art Unit: 1725

Filed: July 10, 2003

Examiner: Ing-Hour Lin

For: Method and Apparatus for Assisting Removal of Sand Moldings from Castings

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Information Disclosure Statement

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants respectfully bring the following information listed on accompanying Form PTO-SB-08 to the attention of the Examiner.

Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-SB-08 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants respectfully assert that the documents listed on the accompanying form PTO SB-08 may not necessarily be prior art, and accordingly, Applicants reserve the right to prove, when appropriate, that a document is not prior art.

Moreover, Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any information provided herewith, and/or, to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. §120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Copies of the non-U.S. patents and non-U.S. patent applications documents are enclosed together with a duly completed Form PTO-SB-08. The Examiner is accordingly requested to consider each of these documents, and to make them of record in this application by initialing in the appropriate spaces on the Form PTO-SB-08. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner include a copy of the initialed Form PTO-SB-08 with the next communication from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- ☐ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114. No certification or fee is required.
- ☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first

Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ c. Attached is our check in the amount of \$ 180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- ☒ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. It is hereby requested that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered.
- ☒ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not

more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

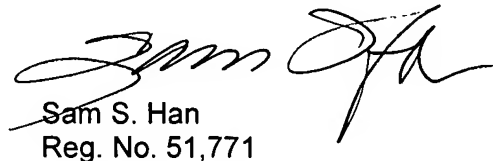
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ 4. Relevance of the non-English language document(s) is discussed in the present specification.
- ☒ 5. The document(s) was/were cited in a corresponding foreign application. Attached is a copy of the Communication pursuant to Article 96(2) EPC.
- ☐ 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:
- ☐ 7. The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. _____, filed _____, which is directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of this U.S. Patent Application is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination.
- ☐ 8. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in Application No. _____, _____, which is relied upon for an earlier filing

date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

The undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p) to Deposit Account No. 23-1951.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-SB-08, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

Respectfully submitted,



Sam S. Han
Reg. No. 51,771

Date: January 24, 2006

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